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and Art and Civic Organizations. The writer's enthusiasm for civic righteousness has been served by an inspirational style which does not always escape the charges of sentimentality and preaching.

As college texts, these volumes would be found too brief, no matter how suggestive. The writer's style and his treatment of his material are such as to make "civics" a better descriptive word for his work than the more formal "municipal government." For the busy teacher and the interested layman, however, these books have much to commend them.

LANE W. LANCASTER.

DAVID, DONALD KIRK. *Retail Stores Management Problems.* Pp. xxix, 1050. Price, \$6.75. Chicago: A. W. Shaw Company, 1922.

This most complete text on retail stores management represents a stupendous amount of searching throughout the business community for problems of retail stores management and a most satisfactory compilation of these problems in unified, orderly fashion. The problems incident to retail store operation are logically developed in accordance with the case method under group headings such as Accounting, Organization, Merchandising and Buying, which serve to give the reader contact with all phases of the retail manager's work.

The method of development of the text is such as to maintain the interest in the problems, since they are arranged in a progressive manner. It is difficult to imagine a more complete and thorough-going attempt to set forth in one volume all of the problems of the retail executive. The book will become standard as a reference text for retail stores management.

Although the author states in his preface that it is possible to utilize the book for a text without additional supplemental material in principles of store management laid down by lecture or text, it is nevertheless difficult to understand how a student might be expected to grasp all of the intricacies of the various problems presented without some supplemental informative material presented to him by his instructor.

The text is profusely illustrated with charts of forms, which partly aid the reader in visualizing many of the problems which are set forth. It would seem that the book would have been an impossible accomplishment without the aid of the large number of concrete management problems available to the author through the Harvard Bureau of Business Research, under Professor Melvin T. Copeland.

R. H. LANSBURGH.

RICHMOND, MARY E. *What Is Social Case Work?* Pp. 268. Price, \$1.00. New York City: Russell Sage Foundation, 1922.

In various fields of human activity, certain stock phrases come into being which are constantly used, on the assumption that every one knows the meaning and appreciates the implications of each such particular phrase. Yet the most superficial inquiry reveals the fact that such assumption is unfounded, that such phrases are used loosely, with far from a general agreement as to what is really meant or actually implied. In the field of social work, the phrase "case work" is an illustration in point.

In this volume, the fifth in the Social Work Series, published by the Russell Sage Foundation, Miss Mary E. Richmond, the editor of that series, director of the Charity Organization Department of the Russell Sage Foundation, and author of *Social Diagnosis*, sets herself to the task of answering the question of what social case work really is. The result is this well-written little book, which fills a very definite need, not only for case workers themselves, but also for a somewhat larger group perhaps which, while not actively engaged in social work, is interested in various ways and for differing reasons in an authoritative summary of the salient features and philosophy of case work.

"Social case work," says the author, "consists of those processes which develop personality through adjustments consciously effected, individual by individual, between men and their social environments." This, it is unnecessary to add, sounds simple enough. Only those who have